

ATTORNEY REF. NO. 123097.00101

PATENT

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 and 18-23 have been cancelled, without prejudice. Claims 15-17 have been allowed. Claims 24 and 25 have been added. Claims 15-17, 24 and 25 remain pending in the application.

The added claims serve to further describe the various embodiments as set forth in the original drawings, specification and claims. No new matter is added as a result of the addition of claims 24 and 25.

Claims 24 and 25 depend from and incorporate the limitations of allowed independent claim 17. As such, claims 24 and 25 similarly recite statutory subject matter, and are therefore patentable.

Applicants have cancelled claims 1-14 and 18-23 without prejudice and explicitly retain the right to further prosecute similar claims via one or more continuation applications.

Applicants submit that all rejections presented by the Examiner have been addressed, and the application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, allowance of claims 15-17, 24 and 25 is respectfully requested.

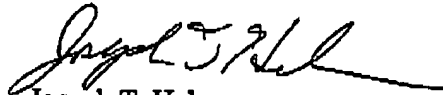
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AUTHORIZATION

No fee is believed to be required for the submission of this Amendment and Response. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to deposit account no. 50-0436.

Respectfully submitted,
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